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Docket No.: 09656/000L371-US0

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of:

SEP 1 9 2005

Application No.: 09/903,957 Confirmation No.: 9409

Art Unit: 3622 Filed: July 12, 2001

POINT MANAGING METHOD For: Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

Document JP 11-3372 A is not in the English language. In accordance with 1.98(c), Applicant states:

The requirement for concise explanation of relevance of Document JP 11-3372 A is satisfied by the attached translation of its abstract (see MPEP § 609 A(3)).

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In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed documents.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: September 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO | | | _ | Complete if Known | | |
|--|---|----|------------|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| | | | | Application Number | 09/903,957-Conf. #9409 | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | | | | Filing Date | July 12, 2001 | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | APPLICANT | First Named Inventor | Seiji Shibahara | |
| | | | | Art Unit | 3622 | |
| | | | necessary) | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 09656/000L371-US0 | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where |
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | Applicant of Cited Document | Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Foreign Patent Document | Publication | Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines, | |
| | | Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Date MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
| | ВА | JP-11-3372-A | 01-06-1999 | Ogawa lwakichi | | 1 |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
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